

R.E.A.L. SAFETY AWARDS PROGRAM

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE, AWARENESS,
& LEADERSHIP IN SAFETY STATEWIDE



APPLICATION
INFORMATION



REAL SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM

RECOGNIZING
EXCELLENCE,
AWARENESS &
LEADERSHIP IN SAFETY

Thank you for your interest in United Contractors statewide R.E.A.L. Safety Awards Program. The program honors the safest companies in our industry by Recognizing Excellence, Awareness, and Leadership in safety.

We are now accepting applications for our 2025 R.E.A.L. Safety Awards. All UCON contractor members* are eligible to apply for **any** of the award categories.

Deadline to Apply: April 10, 2026

Apply Now at **www.unitedcontractors.org**

* A project which has already won a R.E.A.L. Safety Award, is no longer eligible for application.

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General Information (For all Applicants)

When filling out the application, be sure to include the following:

- Full Company Name
- Company Mailing Address
- Primary Contact (First and Last Name)
- Primary Contact Phone Number and Email address
- Type of work performed
- How many full-time employees does your company employ?
- Does your company utilize the UCON Safety Handbook?
- Does your company utilize Cal/OSHA Consultation Services?
- List all employee safety training courses for 2025, including union-provided training, UCON University safety courses, and additional industry safety training.
- What extra measures or initiatives does your company take to promote safety awareness and establish a safety culture amongst all employees? (for example, company-wide education, safety stand-downs, safety incentives, etc.)
- Please ensure ALL questions are answered in full to ensure your application can be processed.

Notes:

- *UCON Safety Awards are open to all UCON Contractor members.*
- *OSHA documents are from California (Cal/OSHA).*
- *All applicants, including JV's, are UCON members of good standing.*
- ***All applications for all categories will be judged anonymously to provide an unbiased score on your application.***
- ***No previous winning project can be entered for the same award.***



Man-Hours Categories

Awarded to a UCON member company based on man-hours worked and Cal/OSHA Recordable Incident Rate for 2025.

There are multiple man-hour categories available:

- Up to 100,000 Man-hours
- 100,001-250,000 Man-hours
- 250,001-500,000 Man-hours
- 500,001-1,000,000 Man-hours
- 1,000,001+ Man-hours

You will need to provide information on any 2025 Cal/OSHA Citations.



1. Do you have a dedicated safety inspector who visits all sites?
2. What percentage of your foremen or jobsite leaders have Cal/OSHA 30 Certification?
3. What percentage of your safety professionals have the following Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) Certifications?
 - Certified Safety Professional (CSP)
 - Safety Management Specialist (SMS)
 - Associate Safety Professional (ASP)
 - Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST)
 - Safety Trained Supervisor Construction (STSC)
 - Certified Instructional Trainer (CIT)
 - Safety Trained Supervisor (STS)



Most Improved Safety Rating

Awarded to a UCON member company that has a 25% or greater reduction in Cal/OSHA Recordables in 2025 compared to the 3 previous years.

1. What contributed to your company's improved safety rating?
2. Please calculate your Cal/OSHA Recordable Incident rate for the following years; 2024, 2023 & 2022.
3. You will be required to upload your company's 2024, 2023 & 2022 Cal/OSHA 300A forms.
4. Do you have a dedicated safety inspector who visits all sites?
5. What percentage of your foremen or jobsite leaders have Cal/OSHA 30 Certification?
6. What percentage of your safety professionals have the following Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) Certifications?
 - Certified Safety Professional (CSP)
 - Safety Management Specialist (SMS)
 - Associate Safety Professional (ASP)
 - Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST)
 - Safety Trained Supervisor Construction (STSC)
 - Certified Instructional Trainer (CIT)
 - Safety Trained Supervisor (STS)



Most Unique Safety Project and Safety Hero of the Year Categories

During the application process it is critical for you to include all supporting documentation and to ensure that your ***application is anonymous***. This includes removing all reference to the company name and logos blocked out on any submitted images.

What will the judges be looking for in these categories? They will be looking at the question responses or the essay to see how the application demonstrates:

- Leadership
- Innovation/creativity
- Commitment/dedication
- Establishes a safety culture through communication and motivation

Important Information:

- **These categories require a blind application, please refrain from providing any information that will alert the judges to who the company or nominee is.**
- Please ensure ALL questions are answered in full.
- See the following pages for more details on each category.



Most Unique Safety Project

Please ensure the following additional information is included within your submission:

- Difficulty of the project
- Timeliness and effectiveness of the project
- Compliance with Cal/OSHA
- Specific accomplishments, progress and performance

Awarded to a UCON member company whose 2025 project presented a difficult, problematic or unusual safety challenge.

1. Tell us about a 2025 project(s) that required outside of the box thinking for safety. Explain the challenge(s) and what you/your safety team did to overcome. This category focuses on a project completed during calendar year 2025 that presented a particularly difficult, problematic or unusual safety challenge. Applicants should detail the various safety aspects of the project; why it required a creative or resourceful approach to resolve them; additional efforts to procure equipment, PPE, engineering or other specialized expertise; employee/supervisory training needed to address the unique requirements to safely execute the project; extra coordination/collaboration with the general contractors/subcontractors; and, any special challenges to endure compliance with applicable Cal/OSHA regulations.
2. **This is a blind application, please refrain from providing any information that will alert the judges to who the company is.**
3. You will have the opportunity to upload any additional documents and/or photos that could assist in the judging process.

Safety Hero of the Year

This category will be reviewed by a panel of judges.

Please ensure the following additional information is included within your submission:

1. Served as an outstanding example to superiors, peers and subordinates
2. Specific accomplishments, progress and performance

The Safety Hero of the Year is awarded to an individual who works for a UCON member company who performed an act(s) of exemplary safety service.

1. What extra measures or initiatives does your nominee take to promote safety awareness and establish a safety culture for their peers?
2. Submit an essay that explains your nominee's heroic, innovative, and exemplary safety performance that sets him/her as an icon for industry safety. Provide examples of integrity in action and how they went above and beyond in 2025.
4. **This is a blind application, please refrain from providing any information that will alert the judges to who the nominee is.**
5. You will have the opportunity to upload any additional documents and/or photos that could assist in the judging process.

Sample Verification Letter

Verification letters are required to be on your company letter head and signed by your Safety lead (Manager/Director),

Sample text shown below:

Date

UCON R.E.A.L. Awards 2025

This letter is to verify that the submitted information has been reviewed and the data provided is true and accurate at the time of application.

Thank you for your consideration.

[Sign]

Print Name

Job Title



UCON Contact Information

Winning companies will be featured in our UCON Magazine and on the UCON website.

For more details, or questions, contact: Ray Baca, (657) 439-6161, rbaca@unitedcontractors.org or Michelle Vejby, (925) 413-4038, mvejby@unitedcontractors.org.

Thank you!

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Apply Now at:

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